MINORITIES AND BACKWARD CLASSES

(a) 15 Point Programme for Minorities.

(b) Scheme for Pre-Examination Coaching for weaker Sections based on economic criteria.

(c) National Minorities Finance and Development Corporation.

(d) National Commission for inorities.

WELFARE OF THE OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

(a) National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation.

(b) Pre-Examination Coaching Scheme for weaker sections based on economic criteria.

(c) National Commission for Backward Classes.

HANDICAPPED WELFARE

1. Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for the Disabled.
2. Scheme of Assistance to the Disabled persons for purchase/fitting of Aids/ Appliances.
3. Rehabilitation of Leprosy-Cured Persons.
4. Establishment of Special Schools.
5. Science and Technology Project in Mission Mode.
6. National Institutes, 1PH and N1RTAR.
7. Legislation viz. "Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and full Participation) Bill, 1955".
8. To set up, a National Trust for the Welfare of the Persons with Mental Retardation and Cerebral Palsy.

SOCIAL DEFENCE

1. Services for Children in need of Care & Protection in Assam.
2. Central Adoption Resource Agency.
3. Homes for Infant and Young Children for promotion in country adoption.
4. Scheme for Street Children.
5. Education Work for Prohibition and Drug Abuse.
6. Prevention and Control of Juvenils Maladjustments.
7. Programmes relating to Aged.
8. Beggary Prevention.

Expansion of Desert Land Development and Drought Prone Regional Programme

955. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to
state:

(a) whether there is a dire need to expand the ambit of Desert Land Development Programme/Drought Prone Regional Programme;

(b) if so, the number of suggestions received so far from the State Governments in this
regard;

(c) whether Government of Gujarat have made any demand from Government to implement this programme in Mandvi and Mundara areas of Kutch; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION) (SHRI VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR): (a) The coverage of Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP) has been recently widened following the new criteria recommended by the Technical Committee on DPAP and DDP headed by Prof. C.H. Hanumantha Rao. The DPAP has been extended to 946 blocks in 149 districts of 13 States from its earlier coverage of 627 blocks in 96 districts of 13 States. Similarly, the DDP now is under implementation in 227 blocks of 36 districts in 7 States in Place of its earlier coverage of 131 blocks in 21 districts of 5 States, The new coverage became operational w.e.f. 1.4.1995.

(b) In their Memoranda submitted to the Technical Committee on DPAP nad DDP, all the Programme States except Bihar, requested the Government of India for inclusion of more blocks under the programmes.

(c) The State Government of Gujarat had requested for inclusion of Mandvi and Mundara blocks of Kutch districts under these programmes.

(d) Both these blocks have been brought under the coverage of Desert Development Programme (DDP) w.e.f. 1.4.1995.

Impact of devaluation on exports of Iron and Steel

956. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the likely impact of fall in the value of rupee in terms of foreign correncies on the exports of different categories of iron and steel alongwith the export projections for the next five years, in the changed situation;

(b) the quantities and values of category-wise exports and iron and steel during the last three years, separately by SAIL, RINL, TISCO and other producers/experters; and

(c) the net realisations from exports of iron and steel including export incentives, and from domestic sales, during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SOMTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Export of iron and steel depends upon several factors such as demand in the domestic and international market, prevailing domestic and international prices, exchange rate of rupee viz-a-vis other foreign currencies and incentive available for export etc. Hence, it is not possible to indicate the impact of only fall in the value of rupee in terms of foreign currencies on the export of different categories of iron and steel and future projections of iron and steel export.

(b) The quantity and value of category-wise export of pig iron and mild steel by SAIL, RINL and TISCO and Secondary producers during the last three years was as follows:—

Qty. in WO tonnes

Value in Rs. crores

	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
SAIL						
i'lGIKON	—	—	18.03	7.46	—	—
MILD STEEL						
MS PLATES	198.10	156.98	304.39	269.60	257.35	247.53
CR COIL/SHEETS	2.32	2.53	18.37	21.00	30.08	30,37
WIREROD/D-BAR	10.85	8.92	26.85	22.94	8.99	7.94
BILLETS/BLOOMS	30.92	21.10	104.54	75.93	121.57	86.60
C.C. SLABS	10.49	6.41	126.81	81.35	104.88	70.97
HR COILS/SHEETS	3.01	2.48	20.44	17.89	41.44	37.32
STRUCTURALS	2.75	2.04	29.58	26.73	13.35	11.56
G.I. WIRE	2.20	0.23	—	—	0.30	0.42
GP/GC	9.95	14.96	—	—	1.02	1.68
TOTAL (MILD STEEL)	268.59	215.65	630.98	515.44	578.98	500.39
RINL						
PIG IRON	16.06	6.06	602.81	253.59	467.38	200.22
SEMIS	52.41	35.86	65.98	47.51	4.01	2.97
WIRE RODS	99.15	159.26	197.63	171.92	222.89	190.32
LMMM	7.79	6.97	71.61	67.26	37.96	32.11
MMSM	4.70	4.20	62.97	54.98	33.74	28.45
TOTAL (MILD STEEL)	264.05	206.29	389.19	341.67	298.60	253.85